

### What is claimed is:

[Claim 1] A removable turret for a pod-based beverage dispenser system, comprising:

a turret frame;

a turret plate; and

a turret shaft connecting said turret plate to said turret frame for rotation therewith;

said turret shaft comprising a pair of first connectors attached to said turret frame and a pair of second connectors attached to said turret wheel, said first and said second connectors releaseably mating therewith.

[Claim 2] The removable turret wheel of claim 1, wherein said turret plate comprises a plurality of apertures therein, said apertures sized to accommodate a beverage pod.

[Claim 3] The removable turret wheel of claim 1, wherein said pair of first connectors comprises a male member.

[Claim 4] The removable turret plate of claim 3, wherein said pair of second connectors comprises a female member.

[Claim 5] The removable turret wheel of claim 1, wherein said pair of first connectors comprises a female member.

[Claim 6] The removable turret plate of claim 5, wherein said pair of second connectors comprises a male member.

[Claim 7] The removable turret plate of claim 1, wherein said pair of first connectors comprises a dovetail-like shaft.

[Claim 8] The removable turret plate of claim 7, wherein said pair of second connectors comprises a dovetail-like groove.

[Claim 9] The removable turret plate of claim 1, wherein said pair of first connectors comprises a dovetail-like groove.

[Claim 10] The removable turret plate of claim 9, wherein said pair of second connectors comprises a dovetail-like shaft.

[Claim 11] The removable turret plate of claim 1, wherein said pair of second connectors comprises a pair of protrusions thereon.

[Claim 12] The removable turret plate of claim 11, wherein said pair of first connectors comprises a pair of apertures therein sized for said pair of protrusions.

[Claim 13] The removable turret plate of claim 12, wherein said pair of first connectors comprises a pair of springs positioned about said pair of apertures.

[Claim 14] A turret system for a pod-based beverage dispenser, comprising:  
a turret plate;  
said turret plate comprising an inner section and an outer section and with said inner section and said outer section defining a gap therebetween; and  
an ejection ramp positioned about said gap.

[Claim 15] The turret system of claim 14, further comprising a sweep arm positioned about said turret plate.

[Claim 16] The turret system of claim 14, wherein said turret plate comprises a top plate positioned on said inner section and said outer section.

[Claim 17] The turret system of claim 14, wherein said turret plate comprises a plurality of pod apertures positioned therein, said pod apertures sized to accommodate a beverage pod.

[Claim 18] The turret system of claim 17, wherein said ejection ramp comprises a first end and a second end and wherein said ejection ramp expands in dimension from said first end to said second end.

[Claim 19] The turret system of claim 18, wherein said first end of said ejection ramp is positioned below said plurality of pod apertures.

[Claim 20] The turret system of claim 18, wherein said second end of said ejection ramp is positioned within one of said plurality of pod apertures or said gap.

[Claim 21] A method of removing a number of pods from a turret wheel of a beverage dispenser with an ejection ramp and a sweep arm, comprising:  
positioning one of the number of pods within an aperture on the turret wheel;

rotating the turret wheel such that the one of the number of pods rides up the ejection ramp; and  
knocking the one of the number of pods off of the turret wheel with the sweep arm.